

Gelinas, John

From: Gelinas, John
Sent: Tuesday, December 06, 2005 12:18
To: *All Fire Employees; *All ECC Employees
Subject: Company Journal - Issue 36



The Company Journal ***and "The Feederline"***

Fire Department News
Cambridge, Massachusetts

From the desk of
Chief Gerald R. Reardon

Issue #36
Tuesday, 6 December 2005

All Companies Working



Working Fire Box "45"- 21: 883 Cambridge Street on 1 November 2005 at 0548 hours. While on the road in the vicinity, **Division 1 Chief Edward Mahoney and Firefighter Walter Grace** discovered this fire and initiated rescue and evacuation of the occupants.



Fire knocked down - Power Vent in progress.

- photos above by **DFC Dan Turner**, Fire Prevention



Sunrise - Fire showing on arrival - rapid interior attack!

- photo above by **F.Lt. Brian Higgins**, Fire Investigation Unit



Still Alarm: The members of Engine 1, Rescue 1, Squad 4, and Professional Ambulance immobilize and provide emergency medical care to a person involved in a pedestrian vs. MBTA bus collision at Cambridge Street and Felton Streets.

- photo by **DFC Dan Turner**, Fire Prevention



Still Alarm: 25 October 2005 - Firefighters and utility workers were kept busy as winds knocked down tree limbs and power lines. Power lines and utility poles were knocked down by a large tree limb on Centre Street. Numerous vehicles were damaged and power was knocked out to the neighborhood.

- photo above by **DFC Dan Turner**, Fire Prevention



Three alarms Box 3-461 at 0442 hours on 25 November 2005, 47 thru 49 Banks Street. The temperature was 12 degrees.





- photos above by **Glenn Turner**, Technical Services



47 thru 49 Banks Street

- photo above by **DFC Dan Turner**, Fire Prevention

What's New

The Department has received an FY 05, \$527,000 **FEMA Federal Aid to Firefighters Grant** to purchase an additional set of bunker gear for each member and to install interop mutual aid radios and on-board repeaters on Engines 2, 5, and 9, and Truck 1. The bunker gear will be used to replace the older of the two current sets assigned to each member. The localized on-board apparatus repeater will allow the Cambridge Companies to utilize the 800 band radios, retransmitting on the selected community radio frequency. This will allow for direct communications with the local mutual aid incident commander and operating companies.

The new Cambridge Fire website is now up and running. Click on to the live radio transmission of Channels 1, 14, and 16. Go to www.cambridgefire.org

Elevator Conference

Chief Reardon and **Mayor Michael Sullivan** addressed the members of the ASME A17.1/CSA B44 Task Group on the future use of elevators in fires and other emergencies. This was the third meeting by the group discussing proposed changes regarding the future use of elevators in high-rise buildings by firefighters and the general public. The meeting was held at the Marriott Hotel in Kendall Square.



- photos above by **Chief of Operations John O'Donoghue** (retired)

Promotions and Assignments

Per G.O. #29 of 2005, effective Saturday, 6 November 2005:

Fire Captain Stephen G. Leonard to Deputy Fire Chief, from Engine Company #4 to Division 1, Group 1

Fire Captain Joseph L. Dynan, Jr. from Engine Company No.2 to Engine Company No.3

Fire Captain Lawrence M. Brogan from Engine Company No.2 to Engine Company No.4

Fire Captain Robert M. Morrissey from Ladder Company No.1 to Engine Company No.2

Fire Lieutenant Jeffrey R. Howard from Engine Company No.8 to Engine Company No.2

Fire Lieutenant Christopher J. Melendy from Engine Company No.1 to Ladder Company No.1

Fire Lieutenant Robert J. Bell from Engine Company No.4 to Engine Company No.5

Fire Lieutenant David B. McKinley from Engine Company No.5 to Engine Company No.9

Fire Lieutenant Daniel M. Flaherty from Squad No.4 to Engine Company No.4

Fire Lieutenant Charles Anderson from Pivot, Group #3 to Engine Company No.1

Fire Lieutenant Matthew F. Brannelly from Pivot, Group #1 to Squad No.4

Firefighter George L. Thompson from Engine Company No.9 to Division 2, Group 3

Retirements

Per G.O. #31 of 2005, effective Saturday, 18 November 2005

Effective November 18, 2005, at 1700 Hours, **Captain Arthur R. Alford, Jr.** retired from the Cambridge Fire Department. Captain Alford was appointed on January 16, 1977 and assigned to the Massachusetts Fire Fighting Academy.

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| • March 13, 1977 | Engine Company No. 6 |
| • June 14, 1981 | Engine Company No. 8 |
| • September 2, 1984 | Promoted to Fire Lieutenant |
| • January 6, 1985 | Fire Headquarters |
| • July 7, 1985 | Engine Company No. 8 |
| • March 1, 1988 | Acting Captain |
| • March 15, 1988 | Promoted to Fire Captain |
| • March 20, 1988 | Engine Company No. 4 |
| • November 24, 2002 | Engine Company No. 8 |
| • December 26, 2004 | Fire Headquarters |

Per G.O. #33 of 2005, effective Saturday, 30 November 2005

Effective November 30, 2005, at 1700 Hours, **Firefighter Robert J. McFadries** retired from the

Cambridge Fire Department. Firefighter McFadries was appointed on May 9, 1971 and assigned to Engine Company No. 3.

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| • March 5, 1972 | Ladder Company No. 3 |
| • January 12, 1975 | Engine Company No. 4 |
| • February 12, 1978 | Engine Company No. 9 |
| • November 16, 1980 | Ladder Company No. 3 |
| • March 10, 1991 | Engine Company No. 1 |
| • February 11, 1996 | Engine Company No. 6 |
| • May 5, 2002 | Engine Company No. 9 |

Firefighters

Congratulations to the following members. They all have completed the probationary one year "on-the-job" and are now officially **Firefighters**.

William J. Barry, Jr.
Joyce T. Bowden
Robert A. Golden
Pedro O. Gonzalez
Jeremiah D. Hart
Brian E. Joyce
Jay Martel
Andrew F. Mello
John S. McEachern
Jeffrey M. McGourty
Mark N. Tiede
John W. Bell
Hugh F. Devlin
Paul F. Morrison
Bryan B. O'Neil
Raymond E. Vaillancourt
Sean M. Williams
Matthew G. Wood
Nicole M. Zedalis

Congratulations

Congratulations to **FF Dennis Vigilante** (Rescue 1, group 4) and wife, **Adrienne**, on the birth of **Jay Dennis Vigilante**. Jay was born on 14 October 2005 at 1123 hours. He weighed in at 7 pounds, 7 ounces and was 20 1/4 inches long. Jay joins brother **Timmy** as the newest member of the Vigilante family.

Best Wishes to **Fire Captain Larry Brogan** (Engine 4, group 1) and wife, **Lisa** on their recent wedding. Larry and Lisa were married on the 22nd of October in Nantucket.

Out and About**This Old House
77 Sparks Street**

Chief Reardon and members of Rescue Company recently caught up with **Tom Silva** from the television series "This Old House." Tom and homeowner **George Mabry** toured the jobsite with the members and discussed several 'trade secrets'. Renovations are underway on this 60 year old house on Sparks Street as part of the popular television series.



From left to right: FF Ed Fales, George Mabry, FF Jeff McGourty, Acting F.Lt. Kurt McLaughlin, Tom Silva, FF John Mulligan, and Chief of Department Gerald Reardon



Tom Silva checks out the Rescue Company.

- photos above by **DFC Dan Turner**, Fire Prevention



Zack Bennett, son of the late **Fire Captain Barry** (Engine 1) and **Jane Bennett**, graduated from the Marine Corps' Officer Candidate School at Quantico, VA this summer. Zack, 21, is a senior at Vermont's military college, Norwich University, where he is a Political Science major. Zack is also Headquarters Major Commander of the college's Corp of Cadets. He'll receive his commission as a Marine 2nd Lieutenant in May, 2006. Wouldn't Barry be proud?!

- photo above courtesy of **Jane Bennett**



Fire Lieutenant John Kotowski (Ladder Company #1, group 4)



Chief Mechanic Ron Gardner (Tech Services, M-1)

*- photos above by **Tara Bithia***



Hook and Ladder Company # 3 - Group 2
*from left to right: **Firefighter Sam Coleman, Fire Captain Bob Dunn, Firefighter John Hathaway, and Firefighter Jeremiah Hart***

Note: The company was using spare Ladder #5, in background, when the photo was taken.

*- photo above courtesy of **John Hathaway***

From the Archives

Saint John Church Fire, Massachusetts Avenue and Hollis Street, December 7, 1955. This Three alarm fire burnt through the roof and caused severe damage to the church. The fire was on a Friday night, an all night fire. The promotional exam for Lieutenant and Captain had been scheduled and was held on the Saturday morning following the fire. Three Boston Firefighters (Ladder Company #12) were severely injured during a collapse at this fire and all three retired due to their injuries.

Earlier in the night, there was a fire at the Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church on Magazine Street.





- photos above from the collection of **Fire Captain Ed Morrissey** (Ladder 1)

Chiefs



The Department Chiefs of are shown above.

from left to right: DFC Timothy White (later Chief of Department), DFC Edmund Burke, Chief of Department Henry Kilfoyle, DFC Thomas F. O'Connor, DFC William Cremins (later Chief of Department), and DFC Phil Brownrigg

The above photo was taken at the CFD Relief Association Annual Get Together. It was held at the Hotel Continental at Garden and Chauncy Street.

There was no banquet but the Relief put on a show and entertainment.

- photo above courtesy of **F.Lt. Dick Teas** (Engine Company #1 - retired)
- information provided by **Deputy Fire Chief Ralph Chapman** - retired

Have things really changed that much?



Fire Lieutenant Frank Murphy, Engine Company #6 (now Deputy Fire Chief, Division 2, group 4) and **Firefighter Bob McKinley**, Engine Company #8 (now retired). This photo was probably taken in the early 1980s.



Between fires and alarms : **Aerial Tower Company #1** (now Ladder Company #1) in the late 70s or early 80s from left to right: **FF Peter Reagan** (deceased), **FF John Watson** (retired), **F.Lt. Joe Schifferdecker** (retired), and **FF Walter Grace** (now Division 1, group 4).

- photos above from the collection of **Walter Grace**, (Division 1, group 4)

Letters

Town of Foxborough
Department of Fire/Rescue and Emergency Services
40 School Street
Foxborough, Massachusetts 02035

11 November 2005

Fire Headquarters
491 Broadway
Cambridge, MA 02138

Firefighter Brian Joyce,

The purpose of this correspondence is to thank you for your assistance on 11/10/05 at the house trailer fire on 131 Washington Street, lot 14 Second Street at Lafayette Park. Your Size-Up of the incident provided me with valuable information to establish a primary attack towards the large LP tanks next to the trailer. Upon my arrival the smoke obscured the visibility of these tanks.

Secondly, all personnel appreciated the bottled water that you so generously provided.

If we can ever be of service to you please don't hesitate to call.

12/7/2005

Thank you again,

Stay Safe!!

Gerald F. McNamara, Sr.

Fire Chief, Foxborough

*(editor's note: **Firefighter/Paramedic Brian Joyce** is a member of Rescue Company #1, group 2)*

Signal 10-15

The Chief of Department regrets to announce the death of **Firefighter Paul A. Balordi** of Engine Company #7, retired. Firefighter Balordi was a United States Army - World War II veteran, a **Pearl Harbor survivor**. He was appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department on 4 February 1951 and was assigned to Engine Company #7 for his entire career.

Paul was born on 19 February 1922. He retired on 6 February 1982. Firefighter Balordi died on 31 October 2005.

Condolences

- Condolences to **Firefighter Simon Camelo** (Engine Company #3) on the death of his mother, **Maria S. (Cabral) Camelo**.
- Condolences also to **Fire Lieutenant Jeffrey Howard** (Engine Company #2) on the death of his sister, **Beverly J. Ferreira**.
- Condolences also to **FF David Croak** (Engine Company # 1) on the death of his aunt, **Maryann Crimaldi-Marifoite**.
- Condolences also to **Fire Captain Robert Dunn** (Truck Company #3) on the death of his aunt, **Eleanor Lehman**.
- Condolences to **Nancy Buttaro** (Headquarters - Administrative Services) on the death of cousin, **Arthur "Larry" Dunn**.
- Condolences to **Fire Lieutenant Peter Donovan** (Engine Company #6) on the death of his father-in-law, **Ronald Laidley**.
- Condolences to **Cambridge Police Officer Timothy O'Brien** on the death of his brother, **Nashua Firefighter Cornelius O'Brien, Jr.** Firefighter O'Brien is the son of the late **Deputy Fire Chief Cornelius O'Brien** (Headquarters) - retired, and is the brother of **Deputy Fire Chief Michael O'Brien** (Nahsua Fire Department.)

Hazardous Materials Task Force Training

In one segment of the 40-hour HazMat Task Force refresher training program coordinated by **DFC Rossi**, task force members review the mechanics and components of gasoline tanker operations. The gasoline tanker was sent to Cambridge on 4 days, courtesy of **Dennis K. Burke** Petroleum.







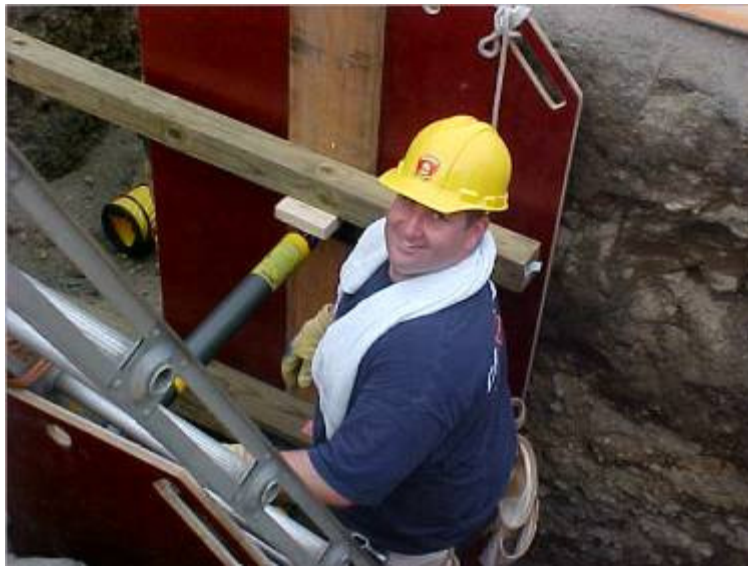
- photos above by **Tara Bithia**

Trench Collapse Rescue Training

Rescue Company #1 participated in the Trench Rescue Training program with the **Belmont Fire Department** at a training site in Belmont. In the final day of the practical program, rescue of a simulated, buried "victim" was effected utilizing the Cambridge Public Works Vector truck. Belmont Fire, Cambridge Fire, and Cambridge Public Works operated as a team to quickly uncover and extricate the simulated "victim."









- photos above by **Tara Bithia**

Stats and Fires

During the month of **October, 2005**, **Engine 2** was the busiest company with **255 runs**. Engine 5 finished with 203 and Engine 1 with 192. **Trucks 1 and 3** finished the month with **202** and 201 runs respectively. **Rescue 1** finished the month with **193 runs**. **Division 1**, the busier division, finished with a total of **170 runs**, while Division 2 responded to 135 incidents. **Squads 2 and 4** completed October with **236 and 162 runs** respectively. There were 1120 emergency incidents during the month, which generated 2938 emergency responses. There were 7 building fires, 40 inside fires, and 45 fires of all categories.

There was a **Working Fire** from **Box "45"- 393** on 28 October 2005 at the YWCA, 7 Temple Street. Engine 2 and Truck 3 were initially stilled to investigate the fire alarm activation at 2342 hours. The box was ordered transmitted at 2347. The Working Fire was ordered at 2359. Fire was confined to one room on floor #4, with heavy smoke and products of combustion throughout the structure. Four engines, 3 trucks, 1 rescue, 2 squads, and 2 division chiefs operated at this fire. **DFC Edward Mahoney** was the Incident Commander. An unattended candle was the cause. Group 4 was on duty.

A **'Level 1 Working' Hazardous Materials incident** occurred at 12 Emily Street on 24 October 2005 at 0832 hours. **Box 346** was transmitted. An uncontrolled polymerization of acriloyl chloride caused a container breach. FD units with the Hazardous Materials Task Force operated to contain the product. Three engines, 2 trucks, 1 rescue, 1 squad, HazMat 1, 1 Division Chief, and staff and support units operated. **DFC Gelinis** was the Incident Commander. Group 2 was on duty.

During the month of **November, 2005**, **Engine 2** was again the busiest company with **233 runs**. Engine 5 finished with 166 and Engine 1 with 134. **Truck 3** was the busiest truck with 178 runs. Truck 1 finished with 137. **Rescue 1** finished the month with **158 runs**. **Division 1** finished with a total of **143 runs**. **Squads 2 and 4** completed November with **219 and 146 runs** respectively. There were 946 emergency incidents during the month, which generated 2580 emergency responses. There were 9 building fires, 39 inside fires, and 46 fires of all categories. (Note: The HazMat Task Force Companies, Engines 1 and 3, Truck 1, and Rescue 1 were out of service for 8 days during November while participating in the Hazardous Materials Refresher training program.)

A **Working Fire** was ordered on the 1st of November 2005 at **Box "45"- 21** for the fire on floors 2 and 3 of the 3 story, brick and wood, mixed commercial and residential building at 883 Cambridge Street. Observing smoke

showing quickly followed by fire showing from windows on floor #2, the fire was discovered by Division 1 **DFC Edward Mahoney and Division Tactical Firefighter Walter Grace**. Chief Mahoney ordered the box to be transmitted at 0548 hours, followed by the Working Fire signal at 0551 hours. Chief Mahoney and FF Grace initiated the search and removed several occupants, including an infant, from the fire building. Once companies arrived, exposures were protected and the fire was quickly knocked down via interior attack. Five engines, 3 trucks, 1 rescue, 2 squads, and 2 division chiefs operated at this fire. An unattended candle was the cause. Group 4 was on duty.

A **Third Alarm** was transmitted, **Box 3-461**, for the fire at 47 thru 49 Banks Street on Friday, 25 November. Engine 1 and Truck 1 were initially stilled out for smoke in the area of Mass. Av. and Trowbridge Streets. The still was at 0442, the Box at 0444, the working fire signal "45" at 0454, the 2nd Alarm at 0516, and the Third Alarm at 0603. Fire was in possession of the 2 story, wood-frame, OMD at this location. Unfortunately, one civilian occupant perished. Nine engines, 5 trucks, the rescue, 2 squads, 2 division chiefs, and staff and support units operated. **A/DFC Robert Blake** was the incident commander. Group 4 was on duty. Several firefighters were treated at hospitals due to injuries received at this fire. The temperature in the early morning hours was 12 degrees.

Retirees

Join the Retired Firefighters Breakfast Club. The club meets at 0730 hours at Andy's Diner (across from Engine 4's house) in North Cambridge. Call John O'Donoghue at 781-483-9217 or e-mail him at jod3502@aol.com for dates and information. Stay in touch. Have breakfast with good company.

Mark Your Calendar

Upcoming Events:

CAMBRIDGE FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 30 IAFF Annual Golf Tournament to Benefit

MDA



CAMBRIDGE FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 30 IAFF Annual Golf Tournament to Benefit

MDA

**Monday May 15, 2006
8:00am Shotgun Start
Sheraton Colonial**

Wakefield, MA**\$125.00 per golfer ~ \$500.00 per team****Make checks payable to
Cambridge Firefighters Local 30****Fee includes****Green fees and carts, Continental Breakfast, Barbecue,
Prizes for players****On Course Contests****Hole-in-One, Closest to Pin, Longest Drive
Cambridge Firefighters Local 30 IAFF MDA Golf Tournament****Contact Name** _____**Phone** _____**Players:**

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Make checks payable to: Cambridge Firefighters Local 30**Return check and registration to:
Gerry Mahoney****NOTE: Registrations must be received by March 15, 2006!****IFBA Convention**

The annual convention of **The International Fire Buffs Association** will be held in Cambridge, Massachusetts in **August of 2007**. The convention site will be the Royal Sonesta Hotel.

Annual Firefighters Ball

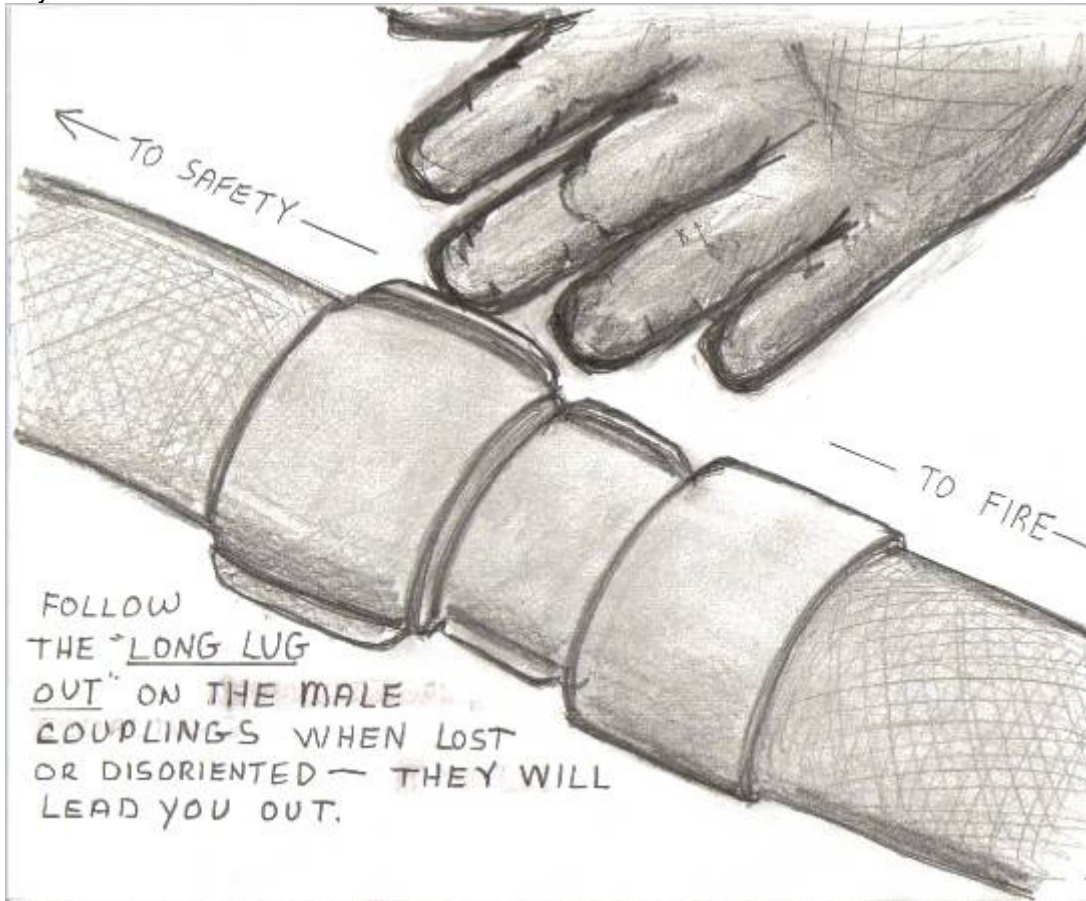
The 118th Annual Ball of the Cambridge Firemen's Relief Association will be held on Saturday, **6 May 2006** (group 3 on duty) at the Burlington Marriott Hotel. Note the new Spring date! Who knows, it might be a nice warm spring night. Full details will be available at a late date. If there are any questions, call FF Dan Maloney, Division 1, group 3 at 617-354-5666.

Training and Safety

Just this past week, an FDNY firefighter received severe head injuries when he was ejected from the jump seat of the Tower-Ladder apparatus while en-route to a fire. Always ride with seat belts fastened!

When disoriented in zero-visibility conditions inside a building, stay with the hose line. Follow the "LONG LUG

OUT" to safety.



- artwork by **DFC David Salvi**, Somerville FD (C2, group 3)

Parting Shot

Deputy Fire Chief Tom Stack and **Firefighter Harold Rosenberger** worked their last tour of duty together in Division 1. Both are finishing up their vacations and soon will be retired.



- photo above by **Tara Bithia**



Firefighter Harold Rosenberger's last tour of duty.

From left to right, standing: **F.Capt. Steve Boyle**, **F.Lt. Matt Brannelly**, **FF David Croak**, **FF Michael Donovan**, **FF Harold Rosenberger**, **FF Mike Dwyer**, **F.Lt. David House**, and **Chief of Ops John Gelinas**;
from left to right, kneeling: **FF Vinroy Paul**, **F.Capt. Edward Morrissey**, **FF Craig Yearwood**, and **FF Robert Mahoney**.

- photo above by **Glenn Turner**, *Technical Services*

Thirty-seven years on the line: Firefighter Joe Thorp (Ladder 4, group 3) tillered Ladder 5 on his last tour of duty - a callback. Joe is now retired.



- photo by **Tara Bithia**

"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."

- President Ronald Reagan



Information

Please submit any information or narratives for inclusion the ***Company Journal***.

E-mail list

If any retirees or friends of the Cambridge Fire Department wish to be added to the ***Company Journal*** e-mail list, send us the e-mail address!

Websites

Visit the Cambridge Fire Department website at www.Cambridgefire.org

Visit the the Cambridge Retirement Board website at <http://www.cambridgeretirementma.gov/index.asp>

**REMEMBER THE MEN AND WOMEN SERVING IN OUR ARMED SERVICES
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. THEY ARE PROTECTING OUR COUNTRY,
OUR LIBERTY, AND OUR FREEDOM.
THANK OUR VETERANS!**



**Brothers and Sisters,
STAY BRAVE!
STAY VIGILANT!
STAY SAFE!**
